

# Chapel Bells

May, 2023

## Pastor's Message

### God Is Still Breathing

I do a fair amount of education over zoom these days. I'm one of those persons who would go to school every day if I could. I enjoy having my mind stretched and there is so much to learn. I love questions that make me think.

Rev. Bob Ullman, compiled a piece that caused me to think deeply. It also fit in perfectly with what I was exposed to at the Rural Ministry Conference. It is taken from "Shining in the Shadows" by Steve Garness Holmes. Read it for yourself.

God is not a being. God is Being itself (I AM). God is all of being; the great Mystery/Love at the heart of everything. When you love, that is God being God.

Darkness is not bad, just unseen. Darkness is where everything begins.

Heaven is not out there but within everything. God is in everything.

**Hope is trust in what is already there, already true, just unseen.**

Every moment God is breathing the world into existence. (God is still

breathing.) You can't stop spring from coming.. You can't stop God from creating.

God's energy is just matter in particular form. The yeast of love is already present everywhere. What you are most worried about, God is already in it. Trust yourself and entrust yourself to God.

Choose to be on the side of wholeness and love in the face of violence and evil. We despair about what's happening in \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ because we love, because we care.

Jesus asks, "Where does it hurt?" Then go there. Trust the grace of God that's in us/in the world. Resurrection is not a happy ending but a new beginning.

The love of God flowing through the vessel of our hearts is infinite. Take in pain, breathe out peace. Breathe out God's dream of peace and wholeness (Shalom).

Be ye vulnerable as God is vulnerable. It's not about you. There's a difference in being afraid of something or some situation and being

afraid because of a dangerous situation.

Your purpose in life is to be God's Beloved and to let that flow from you into the world.



**BIBLE STUDY** will continue meeting on the first and second Thursday of May. We have begun watching *The Chosen* which tells the story of Jesus through the eyes of those who followed him. Just come and see what it's about. We will "catching you up". See you at 1 pm May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Greeters for May:

No one has signed up to greet for the rest of the year. We need your help. Please sign up. Thank you!

### Liturgist

5/7—Jo Swanson

5/14—Kim Kersten

5/21—Bernie Chase

5/28—Cindy Cain



## Hymn Sing Sunday

The third Sunday of the month has been designated Hymn Sing Sunday. Of course, Jill retains the right to ask you to pick another hymn if she so chooses. What hymn will you request?

## PASTOR BONNIE'S OFFICE HOURS

I will be participating in a required course on racism on Thursday, April 27, May 11 and 25 from 10 to 12 am via the Damascus Project. My office hours for those Thursdays will be from 1 to 6 pm.

. In an emergency, please call 262-416-5094.

## E-MAIL ADDRESS:

[saint-paulserin.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:saint-paulserin.pastor@gmail.com) for church related e-mail correspondence.

## WOMEN'S GUILD

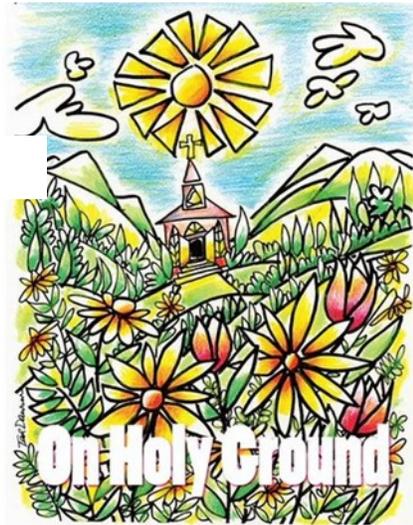
The Guild will hold a Brat Fry and Plant Sale at Fox Bros. Piggly Wiggly in Hubertus on Saturday, June 10. If you have any questions or plants to donate, contact Betty Z.



We discussed some indoor cleaning projects that could be tackled on Clean-Up Day, April 29.

A tote is now located in the lower west hallway next to the choir robe closet to collect items for Good Shepherd Church in their mission to sew and distribute sleeping bags to homeless people. Used blankets, sheets, heavy drapes, coverlets, etc. will be washed and sewn by volunteers into the sleeping bags. Old neckties are collected as well to bundle the finished sleeping bags. We hope you will help us support this mission. If you have any questions, contact Cheryl F.

The next Guild meeting will be held at noon on Thursday, May 18. All St. Paul's women are invited and encouraged to attend. Bring a bag lunch and Debbie G. will provide dessert. Debbie B. will lead the devotion time.



The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youths and young adults. We will collect this. Offering between May 7th and 28th.

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## COUNCIL NOTES

Our next council meeting will be on Monday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m in the conference room. As always, visitors are always welcome.

The Confirmation of Neil and Nate Weber will be on Sunday, May 7.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Special Congregational Meeting on April 16. The congregation voted to pay off the solar panel loan held by the Endowment Fund and the debt has now been paid off using monies from the general fund.

Thank you also to all of the members who donated flowers for Easter in



## Sussex congregation opens doors to May 6 labyrinth retreat

Redeemer UCC, Sussex, invites you to deepen your spiritual life starting with a one-day retreat on Saturday, May 6. The event, "The Journey Is Home: A Labyrinth Retreat," will be led by the Rev. Martha Brunell, who is serving the congregation during the pastor's three-month sabbatical. Participants will explore both the classical and medieval forms of the labyrinth, with walking versions and handheld versions, inside and out if weather allows.

The May 6 event will be the first of three one-day retreats Martha will lead. They're a response to a request by Redeemer Pastor Julie Eklund to focus on spiritual practices and Earth-centered spirituality, a challenge Martha eagerly accepted. "It was a wise request since both of these are at the heart of who I am and the work I do," she wrote in a letter to the congregation. Register for the May 6 retreat.

memory of or in honor of someone. The church looked beautiful and the Altar Committee really appreciates your support

*thank  
you*

Dear Pastor Bonnie and St. Paul's  
Congregation:

Thank you so much for your kind-  
ness and caring after the loss of my  
son, David Schramm.

Whether you sent a card, provided  
food, attended the service, said a  
prayer or shared a  
few words of comfort, it was no-  
ticed and appreciated. It is a  
blessing to be part of such a  
caring and compassionate church  
family and we appreciate your sup-  
port during this  
difficult time.

Lucille Krapfl and Family

## SUMMER'S ON THE WAY, SO IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP

Summer camp means time for fun  
-- a lot of fun!

Campers make new friends, have  
adventures, grow in confidence  
and independence, and feel safe to  
be themselves. But more than  
anything, we hear "The number  
one benefit of camp is my kids  
being in the outdoors for a week.

They're removed from screens, phones, and TVs!"

Daycholah Center offers something for all age groups. & Me  
Camps offer young campers (grades K-2) a few days with an adult they  
love. Tenderfoot introduces youngsters (grades 2-3) to overnight  
camp. DC Elements Summer Camp is the timeless, all-around adventure  
of summer camp with swimming, boating, target sports, campfires,  
camp songs, all-camp evening programs, arts and crafts, sleeping in  
cabins, games and cooking over the fire.

Enthusiasts can go deep into a special interest and activity. Con, Night  
Owl, MADD, Sailing, Green Lake Expedition, and Fishing Camp each  
offer an immersive experience along with traditional camp activities.

If you've been thinking about summer camp, now is the time to register.  
If you have someone young in your life that would love camp, invite  
them to Daycholah.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**CONFIRMATION SUNDAY** is  
May 7<sup>th</sup>. Nathan and Neil Weber will  
be confirming their faith. While the  
journey of faith is lifelong and filled  
with questions quite often without  
answers, Nate and Neil will share  
their personal Statement of Faith as  
part of their confirmation process.

**MAY 14 is BOTH MOTHER'S  
DAY AND RURAL LIFE SUN-  
DAY**. You are invited to bring toy  
farm equipment to church to be  
placed on the altar, as well as a hand-  
ful of seed and dirt. There will be a  
blessing of seed, ground and machin-  
ery as part of the service. We won't  
forget mothers either!

**PENTECOST SUNDAY** is  
May 28<sup>th</sup>. We have been col-  
lecting red candles which will  
be incorporated into the wor-  
ship service. You are asked to  
wear RED!

**WISCONSIN CONFER-  
ENCE ANNUAL MEETING**  
is being held this year on  
Thursday, June 8 through June  
11<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Bonnie and Cindy  
Cain will be representing St.  
Paul's.



Last Call, we are updating our  
church directory. Please be sure  
Donna Runte has your current  
address, phone number(s) and  
email address(es). You can  
email her at [dkrunte@gmail.com](mailto:dkrunte@gmail.com)

Church Council Meeting  
St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
March 13, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by President Charmaine Duehring. Those in attendance were Lucy Krapfl, Charmaine Duehring, Kay O'Keane, Cheryl Fischer, Connie Johnson, Kim Kersten, Carl Roock and Janene Kluever and Pastor Bonnie Jacque.

The January meeting minutes were approved as changed. February Financials are good. Envelopes are doing well and also, the loose offering.. The Financial report was approved. We updated and reviewed the committee members list. We also reviewed the membership listing and updated it. Pastor Bonnie has been meeting with the Community of Practice via zoom. Kim Kersten, Neil Weber and Pastor Bonnie are on the Legacy Committee. They are reworking the grant which we have to apply for by March 31, 2023. We will not get any answers until May 31, 2023.. We checked into applying for a grant to make improvements or updates for our church, but we found out that St. Paul's UCC has too much money available. The table grant will go through, however, which the Legacy Committee is working on.

Katelyn and Kiegan Nelson will have their baby, Rhett Russell, baptized on Sunday, March 26th. The UCC Conference meeting is June 9th through June 11th. Pastor Bonnie is looking for another delegate to also attend this meeting. We approved that Cindy Cain and Curt Hulterstrum would be on the Endowment Committee for a one year term. The Solar Panel loan from the Endowment Committee was discussed. We have more than what was assumed we owed, not the \$6180 as we originally had thought. We found that with the 4% interest that is due, we owe the Endowment Fund \$12,899, in order to pay it off. We decided this interest would grow if we did not pay it off now. We will have to go to the congregation to get their approval to spend this amount of money. It will be due in July. We will have a congregational meeting on the 16th of April, Sunday after Easter. The Chili Luncheon brought in a sum of \$2449.00 There were 41 pies that were all sold.

We found out from the Fire Department that a smoke detector and sprinkler are not required in a church as people do not live there. The sensors are too sensitive and will be set off by any loud noise or strong motion. It would be sending too many alarms that are not for real. We determined that we need new signs for the Chili Luncheon and Cookie Walk. Dave Zimpelman has found a man from St. Olaf's Church to help with our sound system. He was very knowledgeable and found out that we do not need a new system. We will only need to replace a cord and perhaps a new microphone. We have decided to offer a gift to the gentleman who was very helpful and did not charge anything.

We discussed the conflict resolution training and decided we should have a form printed with bullets indicating our procedure so that all new Council members would be able to follow in the future. We could make a poster to hang in our meeting room. Pastor Bonnie will be attending the Southeast Association conference on Saturday, April 29th. She may also attend a ministry conference in Dubuque, Iowa, April 16th through the 18th. We had a discussion about still passing the offering plate, or doing as we had them at each end of the sanctuary during the Covid season.

We will meet again April 17, 2023. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm



# May 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>Seniors</i>	3	4 <i>Lewe &amp; Sharon Jossart Anniversary</i>	5 <i>Gary Brushaber</i>	6 <i>Jerry Lubbert Dave Zimpelman</i>
7 <i>Sunday Worship</i> 9:30 <i>Confirmation Sunday</i>	8 <i>Council Meeting</i> 6 PM  <i>Gavin Johnson</i>	9	10  <i>Taylor Green</i>	11  <i>Kathy Schlafer</i>	12  <i>Dick Nell</i>	13
14 <i>Sunday Worship</i> 9:30 	15 <i>Ken &amp; Donna Runte's Anniversary</i>	16	17	18 <i>Women's Guild</i> 12 Noon	19 <i>Keith Leifer</i>	20
21 <i>Sunday Worship</i> 9:30	22 <i>Jeff &amp; Pastor Bonnie's Anniversary</i>	23	24 <i>Jeff &amp; Pastor Bonnie's Anniversary</i>	25	26	27
28 <i>Sunday Worship</i> 9:30 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	29 <i>John &amp; Rachel Hoch's Anniversary</i>	30	31 <i>Theia Jackopin Jill Paddock</i>			